HONDA Service Bulletin

Model	Applicable To	File Under	Bulletin No.
ALL	ALL	SUSPENSION	94-025

Issue Date
AUG 22, 1994

Steering Wheel Shimmy

SYMPTOM

The steering wheel oscillates, or shimmies, when driving between 58 and 62 mph. It may be most noticeable on smooth roads, and may vary with slight steering inputs.

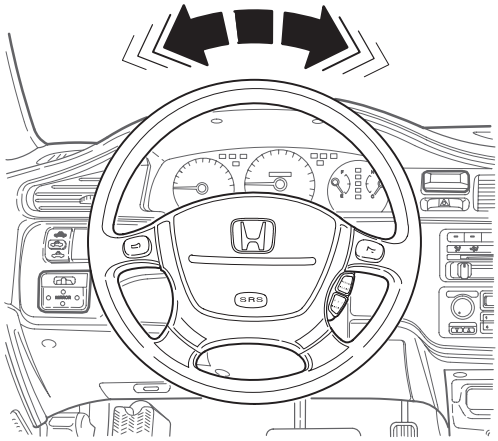
PROBABLE CAUSE

An imbalance of the wheel/tire/hub/disc assembly in the front end.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Dynamically balance the wheel and tire assembly off the car. Then, if necessary, use the Hofmann Finish Wheel Balancer to balance the wheel/tire/hub/disc assembly on the car.

1. Drive the car on a smooth surface between 58 and 62 mph. Turn the steering wheel slightly, and allow the steering to self-center. Repeat this several times and observe the steering wheel motion.
   - If the steering wheel does not oscillate, or the movement is different than shown below, the car does not have an imbalance problem. Do not continue with this procedure.
   - If the steering wheel oscillates as shown, continue with this procedure.



2. Dynamically balance all four wheel/tire assemblies off the car. Make sure the balancer is capable of balancing to an accuracy of within 5 grams. Use only Honda wheel weights (see PARTS INFORMATION).

   NOTE: To verify the balancer's accuracy and calibration, refer to the DYNAMIC OFF-CAR WHEEL BALANCER CALIBRATION CHECK.

3. Reinstall the balanced wheel/tire assemblies and torque the wheel nuts to 80 lb-ft. Do not use an impact wrench to snug up or torque the wheel nuts; it may damage or distort the wheel and cause steering wheel oscillation.

4. Road test the car and check for steering wheel oscillation. If it still oscillates, use the Hofmann Finish Wheel Balancer to do a finish balance on the front wheel/tire/hub/disc assemblies.

   NOTE: Refer to section 4 of the Hofmann DAFB-10 Finish Wheel Balancer Operator's Manual that came with the unit for detailed instructions.

DYNAMIC OFF-CAR WHEEL BALANCER CALIBRATION CHECK

Use this procedure to determine if the balancer is accurate to within 5 grams of imbalance. If the balancer is not accurate to within 5 grams, it must be calibrated or repaired before being used to correct a steering wheel oscillation problem. You will need a Honda factory or accessory alloy wheel only, with no tire mounted, to perform this procedure.

1. Before starting, make sure the wheel has no balance weights. Perform a static balance, adding weights as necessary to only one side of the wheel.

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CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use *only* by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your car. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your car, or that your car has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Honda automobile dealer.

2. Loosen the wheel, rotate it 90°, tighten the wheel, and recheck the balance. Repeat this three more times, until the wheel returns to its original position. The balancer should not indicate any more than 5 grams of additional weight is needed during this procedure. If more than 5 grams is indicated, calibrate or repair the balancer.

3. Remove the weights just installed. Make sure the balancer is set to its finest balancing mode (accuracy within 5 grams).

4. Perform a dynamic balance, adding weights as indicated by the balancer to both sides of the wheel.

5. Once the wheel is in dynamic balance, add an additional 5 grams at any point on the rim and recheck the balance.

   - The balancer should indicate that 5 grams is needed on the same side of the wheel at a point exactly opposite the weight you added. If so, the balancer is in calibration.
   - If the balancer indicates that more than 10 grams is needed, or the indicated position is more than 1.5 inches from the point exactly opposite the weight you added, then the balancer needs calibration or repair.

PARTS INFORMATION

Wheel weights for alloy wheels:

5 grams	P/N 44726-SM1-A01, H/C 4174249
10 grams	P/N 44721-SM1-A01, H/C 4174199
15 grams	P/N 44727-SM1-A01, H/C 4174256
20 grams	P/N 44722-SM1-A01, H/C 4174207
25 grams	P/N 44728-SM1-A01, H/C 4174264

Wheel weights for steel wheels:

5 grams	P/N 44726-SH0-A01, H/C 3809811
10 grams	P/N 44721-SM4-000, H/C 3439049
15 grams	P/N 44727-SM4-003, H/C 3496692
20 grams	P/N 44722-SM4-003, H/C 3496643
25 grams	P/N 44728-SH0-A01, H/C 3809837

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

In warranty: The normal warranty applies.

Out of warranty: Any repair performed after warranty expiration may be eligible for goodwill consideration by the District Service Manager or your Zone Office. You must request consideration, and get a decision, before starting work.

OPERATION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	FLAT RATE TIME
421310	Off-car dynamic balance, four wheels	1.2 hour
422305	On-car finish balance, front wheels	0.6 hour

Failed part: P/N 42700-SM1-A01
H/C 3251550

Defect code: 045

Contention code: B99